GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1092
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2007
OPTIMUM UTILISATION OF GODOWNS
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Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of godowns under Food Corporation of India (FCI) alongwith their capacity as on date;

(b) the total quantity and value of foodgrains transacted from the said godowns during the last year;

(c) the quantity of foodgrains stored in open godowns during the said period;

(d) the amount of foodgrains out of the above that perished during last three years;

(e) whether Food Corporation of India has failed to make optimum utilisation of its godowns;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps taken for optimum utilisation of the godowns by FCI?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): As on 1st July, 2007, the Food Corporation of India is operating 1450 godowns (owned & hired /covered/CAP) with a total storage capacity of 247.54 lakh MTs.

(b): The total quantity and value of foodgrains transacted by FCI during the year 2005-06 are as under:-

Quantity in millions tonnes
Value in Rs. Crore

	Quantity	Value
Purchases	35.29	34,452.33
Sale	36.04	22,740.92

Note: Value of Purchases & Sales are at actual rates paid/realised.

(c): A total quantity of 5.71 lakh tonnes is stored in Covered and Plinth (CAP) storage against the CAP capacity of 25.20 lakh tonnes as on 30.06.2007.

(d): The details of the foodgrains damaged during the last three years are as under:-

Figures in Lakh Tonnes

Year	Quantity Damaged		Total
	Wheat	Rice	
2004-05	0.12	0.85	0.97
2005-06	0.15	0.80	0.95
2006-07	0.01	0.24	0.25

(Wheat is stored in Open also and Rice is stored in covered godowns only)

(e) & (f): The optimum utilization of FCI godowns depends upon the pace of procurement and offtake of foodgrains under the TPDS and other Welfare Schemes of the Government.

Due to heavy procurement of wheat in the years 1998-99 to 2005-06, FCI started facing problem of shortage of storage capacity. In order to ensure smooth procurement and safe storage of foodgrains, FCI had to hire additional storage capacity. The total capacity went up from 25.5 million tonnes during 1999-2000 to 35.9 million tonnes in 2001-02.

However, owing to drop in procurement of wheat in RMS 2006-07 and increased offtake in TPDS and other Welfare Schemes from 2002-03 onwards, stock level of Central Pool have depleted causing under-utilization of the storage capacity held by FCI. On periodic review, the capacity considered surplus has been dehired by FCI. The total storage capacity with the FCI has been reduced from 314.26 lakh MTs on 31.3.2001 to 247.54 lakh MTs as on 30.6.2007.

(g): The following steps have been taken for optimum utilization of capacity :-

(i) Monthly review is taken by Executive Director (Zones) of FCI and the capacity found surplus is dehired;

(ii) Surplus storage capacity with FCI is being rented out to prospective users.